REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed December 16, 2008 in the above-identified application.

Claims 2-4, 15 and 24 are the claims currently presented for examination in the present application.

Claim 2 is amended to clarify features recited thereby. The amendments to claim 2 are fully supported by applicant's disclosure, see, for example, Specification, paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 and Fig. 3.

Rejection of Claims 2-4, 15 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-4, 15 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious from Camenzind, PCT WO 99/56918 in view of Lohmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,014,396. Reconsideration of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As discussed in the Amendment filed April 16, 2008, according to an aspect of applicant's invention as claimed in claim 2, the weighing element can be reliably secured to the pocket knife and the weight of the load can be transmitted to the measuring sensor 23 via a transmission element 21, which is secured to the mounting spindle 11. Accordingly, the transmission element 21 pivots about the mounting spindle and thereby changes a force direction of the weight of the load, as described, for example, in Specification, paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 and as illustrated, for example, in Fig. 3. In this way, a compact load measuring apparatus can be provided in a manner suitable for a pocket knife in which the load is suspended from a weighing element and then the force of the weight is transmitted transverse to the force of the weight.

Claim 2 requires a pocket for knife for measuring a weight of a load suspended therefrom, the pocket knife comprising a weighing element mounted to the body and configured to receive the load and to transmit to the transmission arrangement in a first force direction the weight of the load, the transmission arrangement configured to change a force direction of the load from the first force direction to a second force direction transverse to the first force direction, by pivoting about one spindle of the at least three mounting spindles.

The Office Action acknowledges that Camenzind does not disclose a transmission

arrangement/lever element configured to pivot about a spindle (Office Action, page 2), however, it alleges that Lohmann discloses such a feature, citing the transmission arrangement/lever element 69 and the fixed pin 70 illustrated in Figs. 8 and 9 of Lohmann.

Lohmann discloses a weighing apparatus directed to correcting for hysteresis in the weight indication, and discloses a translating lever 69 connected to a fixed pin 70 that is carried by the housing of the scale, an extension 72 that is connected to the load on the weighing platform (not shown), and an extension member 23 and a counterforce member 24 connected to the translating lever 69 (Lohmann, column 8, lines 2-21). Lohmann discloses that a load arranged at bar linkage extension load 88 (Lohmann, Figs. 9 and 12) under translating lever 69 bears directly on extension member 23 and counterforce member 24 connected to and arranged above the translating lever 69. In this way, Lohmann discloses that weight suspended from bar linkage extension load 88 is transmitted to several elements above the translating lever 69, including the extension member 23, counterforce member 24 and the other blade of the scissors 90 (illustrated in Lohmann, Fig. 9) in the same force direction as the weight of the load transmitted by extension 72 (illustrated in Fig. 8) and bar linkage extension load 88 (illustrated in Fig. 9).

Lohmann does not disclose or suggest a transmission arrangement that changes a force direction of the load by pivoting about a spindle, as required by claim 2. As discussed, translating lever 69 transmits the force of the load in the same direction as extension 72 to extension member 23 and counterforce member 24. Further, Lohmann does not disclose or suggest a transmission arrangement that changes the force direction of the load from the first force direction to a second force direction transverse to the first force direction, by pivoting about the one spindle, as further required by claim 2.

More generally, Camenzind and Lohmann do not disclose or suggest a pocket knife with three spindles, as required by claim 2. Accordingly, even taken together in combination, Camenzind and Lohmann do not disclose or suggest the recitations of claim 2.

Claims 3, 4, 15 and 24 depend from claim 2 and are patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing discussion, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING SYSTEM ON March 5, 2009.

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